

Dept. Sec. - SC - by B - 11/22/62

The United States has never wanted to be forced to invade Cuba. The sudden and secret actions of others in September and October did create a danger which might have compelled invasion. On the evidence of action taken and the assurances now presented, the threat of offensive weapons is receding and ⁱⁿ this situation the invasion of Cuba is neither required nor justified. On the understanding that offensive weapons are removed from Cuba and kept out of Cuba in the future, the United States is therefore ~~able~~ able to give assurances against invasion of Cuba. In the absence of the verification and safeguards contemplated by the President's letter of October 27, these assurances can be sustained only if there is no interference with other means of obtaining satisfactory information on the absence of any offensive weapons system. It is in the interest of all that there should be no fear of repetition of the events of September and October.

It must also be understood that the United States Government remains dedicated to the principles of the Rio Treaty and the United Nations Charter, so that nothing in the present Declaration can alter the obligations assumed under those treaties to deal with any threat to the peace of the Hemisphere.

*2 made
one final attempt*

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In consideration of the steps that have been taken by the Soviet Union to date, the United States for its part has as of November 20, 1962 lifted the quarantine instituted on October 23, 1962 and ^{IT} the United States further declares that, provided no nuclear weapons or other weapons systems capable of offensive use are present in, or reintroduced into Cuba, and provided Cuba does not invade or support an invasion of any other country in the Western Hemisphere, it will not invade Cuba or support an invasion of Cuba. This commitment is made by the United States on the understanding that by reason of the inability of the United Nations to obtain the consents necessary to provide the arrangements contemplated to ensure the carrying out and continuation of the commitments in regard to the maintenance and introduction of such weapons systems in Cuba, the United States will, until such time as such arrangements can be effected, continue to employ such other ~~MEANS~~ means of observation and verification as may be necessary.

The undertakings stated herein do not alter or impair the rights and obligations contained in the United Nations Charter or the Rio Pact to both of which the United States is a party.